

# THE CIVILIAN

VOL. VII.

APRIL 16, 1915.

No. 26

## A DOMINION POSTAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION.

The following interesting letter was written by Mr. J. W. Green, the real, live Secretary of Postal Clerks' Association of Western Canada, and addressed to the secretaries of all Postal Associations in Eastern Canada:

Dear Sir,—

At the Convention of the Civil Service Federation of Canada, held at Ottawa in January, there were present representatives from the Postal Clerks' Associations of Montreal, Kingston, Ottawa, Toronto and Winnipeg, who, during the course of the Convention, met in committee on three occasions, and one of the subjects under discussion was the formation of a Dominion Postal Clerks' Association. On behalf of the Western Association, I made an earnest request to the representatives present to give this question their careful consideration, which they promised to do; also inviting me to issue a circular to the various associations in Eastern Canada, asking their co-operation in this respect. I say Eastern Canada, because in Western Canada all associations are affiliated with the Postal Clerks' Association of Western Canada, and are therefore in a position to join forces with the East at any time. We have branches at the following points: Port Arthur, Winnipeg, Brandon, Regina, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Prince Albert, Medicine Hat, Calgary, Lethbridge, Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster.

It was generally agreed by the delegates present at the convention that it was most desirable that such an association be formed, with as little delay as possible. One of the principal reasons why such action was advocated was the fact that although several

hours were spent in discussing certain questions pertaining to the interests of postal clerks only, it was found practically impossible to deal with more than three or four of the most vital points, and even when decisions were arrived at we were, after all, not in a position to make any recommendations on these particular questions, as being the voice of the service.

The Civil Service Federation can never take the place, or serve the same purpose as a Dominion Postal Clerks' Association, for even were it possible for every branch association to send a delegate to their convention it would be found that each delegate would probably hold different views on each subject under discussion, and as far as questions directly affecting postal clerks were concerned, it would take up the whole time at the disposal of the convention for these representatives to arrive at a unanimous decision, or a decision of the majority.

We have had absolute proof of this, for we have already held two conventions: one at Calgary in June, 1913, and the other at Edmonton June, 1914. The first convention lasted for four days, but this was due to the fact that one day was entirely devoted to drawing up a Constitution and By-laws. The second convention lasted three days, and I can assure you that very little time was wasted.

Another urgent reason why we should unite our forces is because of the increased activity of the political party in the matter of patronage. If this be allowed to continue, we shall eventually find ourselves in the same position as the country postmaster. By forming one strong association we



shall be in a position to effectively resist this invasion of our rights and will also be helping the cause of the Civil Service Federation, inasmuch as our affiliation with this body would greatly strengthen their hand, and also the delegates from such an organization as proposed, in attendance at their convention, would have the backing and support of all post office clerks from coast to coast.

You would also find that your members would take more interest in their respective associations, for it is an honour, aspired to by each member, to be chosen as a delegate to represent their branch at a convention. Our conventions could be held annually, or every two years, according to the will of the majority, and would be movable. By having a movable convention you would find that each branch would strive for the honor of having the convention held in their city, and it would also be desirable from an education point of view and would bring the clerks in the several Provinces of the Dominion more closely in touch with each other.

I would suggest that a committee be appointed from the various Postal Clerks' Associations in Eastern Canada to make a thorough study of this question, and, if practicable, they should meet at some point as nearly central as possible, and come to some definite decision. We, in Western Canada, will probably meet in convention at Vancouver in the month of July, and we would like to be in possession of information as to your intentions re the formation of a Dominion Association of Postal Clerks.

Please give this matter your careful consideration, and I am sure that you will find that such a course of action is not only most desirable, but inevitable. It may be that this effort will fall through, but eventually you will find that conditions will arise which will force this action. Why wait till to-morrow? Do it to-day.

## THE MAN WHO STAYS BEHIND.

The free young man who stays behind during this war, when the best of our young men go to the front, needs a first-class explanation to keep his credit good. He must have a reason,—a real reason, a good reason,—or incur a certain odium that will cling to him and make him ashamed in the presence of men and under the inevitable curiosity of the next generation.

Kipling says: "The only safe instinct saves us from triumph and exultation. But what will be the position in years to come of the young man who has deliberately elected to outcast himself from this all-embracing brotherhood? What of his family, and, above all, what of his descendants, when the books have been closed and the last balance struck of sacrifice and sorrow in every hamlet, village, parish, suburb, city, shire, district province and dominion throughout the Empire?"

As one also of America's poets has said:

"When the brown soldiers come back from the borders,  
How will he look while his features they scan?  
How will he feel when he gets marching orders,  
Signed by his lady-love, sweet little man?"

## MOOSE JAW POSTAL CLERKS' ASSOCIATION.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Moose Jaw Branch of the Postals Clerks' Association of Western Canada was held on Tuesday evening, the 6th April. Amongst other business transacted it was determined to send a delegate from this Branch to the Convention to be held at Vancouver, July next. W. D. Weedon, the secretary, was chosen delegate. Also a social committee was appointed to arrange for sports, games and outings for the coming season.



## The Roll of Honour.

*The Civilian* is indebted to the Deputy Ministers of several Departments for excellent lists of members of their staffs who have joined the army. In these lists, received since last issue, are named a large number of men who are in the First Contingent. Inasmuch as these men are now at the battle-front, it is desirable to add their names to the Roll of Honour with the least possible delay. Accordingly the Eighteenth List is made up exclusively of First Contingent men. Unfortunately, full details as to regiments, etc., are not at hand in many cases. In some instances they are unobtainable. To avoid further delay, the names are given with such particulars as are available.

A large number of names of Civil Service men in all three contingents still await publication.

### EIGHTEENTH LIST.

#### First Contingent.

- Lieut. C. G. Child, Parks Branch, Banff, Alta., Divisional Cyclist Corps.
- J. R. Mellor, Parks Branch, Banff, Alta., Strathcona Horse.
- Lieut. A. E. Jollivet, Parks Branch, Banff, Alta., 1st Middlesex.
- C. H. L. Sharman, Dept. of Agriculture (Inside).
- O. C. White, Dept. of Agriculture (Inside).
- J. T. Janson, Dept. of Agriculture (Inside), British reservist.
- T. O. Clark, Dept. of Agriculture (Outside).
- E. C. Thurston, Dept. of Agriculture, Sydney, N.S.
- H. B. Collett, Dept. of Agriculture, Calgary.
- H. Colborne, Dept. of Agriculture, Winnipeg.
- K. L. Douglas, Dept. of Agriculture, Montreal.
- F. A. Daingneault, Dept. of Agriculture, Montreal.
- H. J. Elliott, Dept. of Agriculture, Winnipeg.
- C. W. Finimore, Dept. of Agriculture (Outside).
- F. A. Walsh, Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.
- M. B. Sorensen, Dept. of Agriculture (Outside).
- D. E. Lothian, Dept. of Agriculture (Outside).
- C. W. Neal, Dept. of Agriculture (Outside).
- R. E. Everest, Dept. of Agriculture, Scott, Sask.
- S. H. Valliant, Dept. of Agriculture, British reservist.
- James W. Boston, Dept. of Agriculture, British reservist.
- F. H. Tingley, Public Works, St. John, N.B.
- C. S. Cunningham, Public Works, St. John, N.B.
- J. C. Stewart, Public Works.
- W. M. Everall, Public Works, Port Arthur.
- Norman Ross, Public Works, St. Andrews, Man.
- W. E. Keyt, Public Works (British Columbia).
- H. A. Thompson, Public Works (British Columbia).
- G. B. Hughes, Public Works, Victoria, B.C.
- A. B. Irving, Public Works, Victoria, B.C.
- J. Saidler, Public Works, Edmonton.
- A. J. Wilson, Public Works.





“LONESOME.”

Seems no matter where you go  
 Somebody is lonesome,  
 In the crowds that ebb and flow  
 Somebody is lonesome;  
 In some eye there lurks a tear,  
 In some heart a stifled cheer,  
 Somewhere on this hemisphere  
 Somebody is lonesome.

Even in the social sets,  
 Somebody is lonesome,  
 E'en among the pampered pets  
 Somebody is lonesome;  
 Those in padded limousine  
 Or within a hovel mean,  
 E'en in palaces, I ween,  
 Somebody is lonesome.

In among the idle class  
 Somebody is lonesome,  
 With the workers too, alas,  
 Somebody is lonesome;  
 Makes no difference, rich or poor,  
 Laughing wit or palling bore,  
 Right among the smiling corps  
 Somebody is lonesome.

Seems to me that as we know  
 Somebody is lonesome,  
 Know, no matter where we go  
 Somebody is lonesome;  
 We should try by laugh and smile  
 From their sorrow to beguile,  
 For we know that all the while  
 Somebody is lonesome.

Seems too bad to realize  
 Somebody is lonesome,  
 Knowledge that I do not prize,  
 Somebody is lonesome;  
 Seems to spoil my pleasure so  
 As along my way I go,  
 When I think—and when I know  
 Somebody is lonesome.

Wish that it was but untrue  
 Somebody is lonesome,  
 I feel sad to know—don't you?  
 Somebody is lonesome;  
 Gee, how happy I could be  
 If my eyes could never see,  
 And my heart cease telling me  
 Somebody is lonesome.

THE TOASTS

*By Jack Cadden.*

E'er yet the timorous dawn had crossed  
 Another day of slaughter,  
 They met to drink one parting toast,  
 Each to the land he fought for;  
 “Wha fears the path wi' dangers set,  
 And wha wad choose anither?  
 We'll drink a cup to 'Scotland Yet'  
 And bless the Land o' Heather.”



Another spoke: "I'd fall to-day  
 Without wan word av sorra,  
 Could I forget the pain that lay  
 Within the eyes o' Norah.  
 But fill your cup and take your place,  
 My fate I'm little fearin',  
 Wan scion av the Fightin' Race  
 Drinks his last toast 'To Erin.'"

"Back London way" (the third man spoke),  
 Is cause for my returning,  
 And I have seen, thro' battle-smoke,  
 The Channel lights a-burning;  
 And yet, because stern Duty's call  
 All other calls surpasses,  
 For England's sake the pledge I take:  
 'To England' lift your glasses."

Each went his way—no pen records  
 The sequel to the story;  
 Each met the death that ill affords  
 The aftermath of glory.  
 And somewhere there are those who hark  
 In vain for their returning,  
*But safely thro' the outer dark  
 The Channel lights are burning!*

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### SCOTLAND YET.

The following stirring lines by A. Stoddart Walker are copied from the *Montreal Gazette*, in which they were printed in connection with an article on the splendid recruiting achievements of the 5th Royal Highlanders of Canada:

Achnacarry, Cameron's pride,  
 Whose faith is Scotland's weal,  
 Sends ringing down Lochaber's side  
 The war cry of Lochiel;  
 "Leave gowks to stalk and coofs to dance,  
 The Camerons are furth to France."

"Dunkeld and Menzies, Blair and Scone,  
 Hae gane the ways o' men."  
 On Rannoch side the harvest moon  
 Lights up the harried glen;  
 From croft and castle, glebe and manse  
 The "Forty Twa" are furth to France.

From Inverary north to Ross  
 The flow has run to spate;  
 From fen and moorland, peat and moss  
 Twa lads have gone in eight;  
 With ache of heart but pride of glance,  
 "Argylls and Seaforths furth to France."

By Lochnagar—by Dee and Don,  
 See Huntley, Farquhar tread,  
 From lodge and shieling they are gone,  
 The hungry ranks are fed;  
 The girls seem walking in a trance,  
 The Gordons gay are furth to France.

From Dunnet Head to Sands o' Dee,  
 From loan and mountain pass;  
 The Isles are swept from sea to sea  
 From Lewis round to Bass;  
 The pipes are filled, the horses prance,  
 The Guards and Greys are furth to France.

The Borderers from Berwick town,  
 The Scots from deep Glencorse;  
 The Fusiliers from Banks o' Doon,  
 Light Infantry in force;  
 The Scottish Rifles look askance  
 At men who go not furth to France.

For Scotland's king and Scotland's law,  
 They "Dree'd their weird" in turn;  
 On Flodden Field and Philiphaugh  
 These sons of Bannockburn;  
 And now their glory to enhance  
 They fight with England furth in France.

The aged chieftain takes his way  
 Slow down the stricken glen,  
 And speaks of fame and things agley,  
 "A few may come again,  
 But God was good to grant this chance  
 To fight for freedom furth in France."



# THE CIVILIAN

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THE EDITORS,  
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Ottawa, April 16, 1915.

## SIR ROBERT BORDEN IN HALIFAX PLATFORM.

*A thorough and complete re-formation of the laws relating to the Civil Service should be put into effect, so that future appointments shall be made by an independent commission acting upon the report of examiners after competitive examination. I am convinced that we shall perform a great public duty by establishing in this country that system which prevails in Great Britain, under which a member of Parliament has practically no voice in or control over any appointment to the Civil Service.*

*To use the power of filling positions in the public service as a reward for party service and without regard to the character and capacity of the individual selected is a gross breach of a solemn public trust. A private trustee so dishonouring his office would be subject to punishment by the criminal law.*

## OUR BOYS

DEAD

**LOUIS DE NOAILLES,**

Killed at the Yser,  
November, 1914.

**PAUL HUMBERT,**

Killed at Perthes-les-Hurlus,  
Jan. 8, 1915.

**A. NICHOLSON,**

Killed Jan. 26, 1915.

**CHESTER S. FRASER,**

Died Feby. 5, 1915.

**LIEUT.-COL. F. FARQUHAR**

Killed Mch. 21.

WOUNDED

**M. DORGAS,**

At St. Feri, Sept. 18, 1914.

**GEORGES P. HUGUET,**

At Ville-sur-Turbe,  
Sept. 25, 1914.

**WILLIAM BARGE.**

PRISONER

**YVES RIOUX.**

## SERVANTS OF THE PEOPLE.

In the business world, now so greatly disturbed by the war, there is preached in these days a new doctrine which may be called the doctrine of enlightened selfishness. It is the business of the business man to make a profit; but his profit is to be made, not grabbed. The object of business is expressed more and more in the word "service". Men in all kinds of business, especially merchandising and those lines that come nearest the public, are now proclaiming themselves servants, willing and loyal servants, of those whom they seek to make their customers.

Members of the Civil Service may see in this movement a revival of the sentiment which has always animated the best men of our class



everywhere. We are called "servants". For a time, the title carried little honour. But now that the great men of business who, for a time dominated and domineered, are pressing forward to claim as a patent of nobility the recognition of work they do, as servants of the public, we may well feel that a new era is dawning for us.

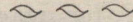
The new doctrine of service has a humanizing effect in every direction. For one thing, those who lead and those who follow in the business world are coming to see themselves not as disputants over a question of reward but as co-operators in a matter of service. Even the lowest man in any line of production is now recognized as worthy of his share of the reward which the public always provides with lavish generosity for those who render pleasing and acceptable service.

The same thing must ultimately prove true of the Civil Service. At present we suffer by the spirit, which has been cultivated so long in the world, under which the lower ranks of labour are disregarded and deprived of their fair reward.

The men in the lower ranks of the Civil Service are not now given that consideration to which their importance as a part of the whole organization entitles them. These men do work the value of which is beyond computation. That they do their work faithfully and well is attested by the fact that all the petty details of the whole great public service of Canada are performed in a way to excite almost no unfavourable comment. Mails are collected and delivered everywhere with punctuality and accuracy, the public treasury is faithfully guarded at all the thousand of intakes and outlets scattered over our immense territory; the great work of building up the country, if it is disturbed at all, is disturbed by great men, high in position and in receipt of great incomes,

and not by those who render the many uncounted services that are poorly paid and almost forgotten.

Let him who has been faithful be faithful still. The whole basis of the people's thinking on this question of service is undergoing a change. With the exaltation of thought and feeling which must follow this war far-reaching and beneficial changes will be made. And the men who have been so long neglected and disregarded will share, as they ought to share, in the reforms that are at hand.



#### HOUSE OF COMMONS PROMOTIONS.

The House of Commons and the Civil Service should stand by each other, for they are the two most generally misunderstood and most unfairly criticized institutions to be found in the country; and also they are a great deal better than their harsh and hasty critics would be willing to admit.

Recently the House of Commons, regarded simply as a department of the Civil Service, has shown itself the guardian of the principle of promotion by seniority and by merit.

As already announced in *The Civilian* the place made vacant by the retirement of Mr. W. C. Bowles is filled by the appointment of Mr. R. P. King, who stood next in rank and who had earned his promotion by many years of faithful and efficient service. The illness of Mr. Bowles had thrown a great deal of extra labour upon the other members of the staff of the Clerk of the House, and the heavy end had rested with no inconsiderable weight on the shoulders of Mr. King. The fact that the work has run on with smoothness is the best proof of Mr. King's ability and his fidelity to duty. It is an open secret that there were people outside who would have been glad of some arrangement which would have put



them into a desirable place on the House of Commons staff and whose appointment would have meant that Mr. King and his juniors in the branch would have been compelled to wait for many years for promotion. But the House of Commons did the right thing in the cause of fairness and in their own interest by giving a step up to those who had learned their business under Mr. Bowles' able instruction and who had served under him for years.

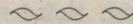
Another change is announced in the same department. Mr. D. C. Chamberlain, for many years Accountant of the House, retires, and the Assistant Accountant, Lieut.-Col. D. W. Cameron succeeds him.

Mr. Chamberlain was an appointee of the late Hon. Peter White when Speaker of the House. There was a considerable lack of system at the time of his appointment and a man of special ability and experience was needed for the position. With his unerring judgment of men Mr. White chose Mr. Chamberlain, and the House of Commons has never since known that it had an Accountant except for his name on the checks, so smoothly has everything run. Mr. Chamberlain has amply earned a rest, and he will carry into his honoured retirement the regard and best wishes of all who have known him personally or officially.

The new Accountant of the House of Commons, Lieut.-Col. Cameron bears a name honoured in Canadian political history. He is a son of the late Matthew Crooks Cameron, for years leader of the Conservative party in Ontario and one of the ablest of a generation of great lawyers. Lieut.-Col. Cameron joined the staff of the House of Commons many years ago. He has both the ability and the training to fulfil the duties of his high and responsible office. No member of the Civil Service is more popular than he, and aside from the fact that in his case also the principle of merit pro-

motion has been asserted, the Service generally will rejoice that one so highly regarded has won success which he so eminently deserves.

With these promotions to its credit, the House of Commons is in a position to roundly lecture, even if it does not call to its bar for trial and condign punishment, any department that fails to reward merit and promote its deserving officers by seniority.



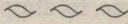
#### A CHANCE FOR MERIT.

All civil servants have a warm appreciation of that attribute of justice and mercy which is known by the name of the Merit System and which falleth like the gentle rain from Heaven and blesseth him that gives and him that takes. Two notable instances of Merit have occurred in the House of Commons where Messrs. King and Cameron have been nominated by the Government to succeed Messrs. Bowles and Chamberlain. Compliment and congratulations are hereby tendered both to the Government and the officers who have received well merited promotion.

We are reminded by a recent sad occurrence of an opportunity for the Government to be the model employer as it has been in the cases mentioned above. By the recent deplorable death of Mr. R. A. Clark of the Ottawa Outside Customs service the office of Surveyorship of that city becomes vacant. We ask, and the whole service, could it do so, would ask that this office be filled by promotion. A Minister having the gift of life or death in his hand, in the giving or withholding of promotions, has but to imagine the state of mind of a man of faithful service passed over in the race of life by an outsider given an unfair advantage handicap. In the case under discussion, as in the two recent cases in the House of Commons, there is a man next in order of seniority who is specially qualified to

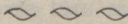


perform the duties of Surveyor of the port of Ottawa. The man's name is A. M. Routhier, and *The Civilian* has good authority for mentioning his name in this connection. We express the ardent hope that the Minister of Customs will deal justly and wisely in this case and so earn the gratitude of the whole Service. The promotion by seniority of Mr. Routhier means promotion all along the line for the officials of the port of Ottawa and contrawise the appointment of an outsider means in effect demotion for all those who would be benefitted by the promotion of the senior officer.



#### TO OUR ASSOCIATIONS.

The editors desire to draw the attention of the officers of the various associations throughout the Dominion to the very great importance of furnishing *The Civilian* with reports of meetings of civil servants of whatever nature, the election of officers, and also news of interesting events happening throughout the Service. Any news regarding those who have volunteered for active service, or who have met with casualty in the course of patriotic service to the Empire is particularly desirable. The foregoing suggestions are particularly pointed just now when Civil Service measures are at a standstill, because all such items of news will contribute to the keeping alive of the spirit of organization until brighter days come for the organizers of Civil Service reforms.



#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Editors desire the indulgence of contributors as well as readers on account of the limited dimensions of *The Civilian*, and the consequent delay in printing matter received for publication. This appeal applies especially to our athletic friends as news concerning sports have often to

be held over, and of course such matter is too stale for appearance in the following issue. *The Civilian*, like other greater institutions, is an economic sufferer from war conditions and must measure its available type space by its financial capacity to pay the bill.

\* \* \*

The attention of all Ottawa Civil Servants who suffer from the high-rent imposition which penalizes residence in Canada's great cities is directed to an article on the Government housing scheme to be carried out in Buenos Aires, which may be found in this issue of *The Civilian*. Ottawa has a very serious housing problem, and a Civil Service co-operative effort may bring its solution. The heaven is working and results are anxiously awaited.

#### "READY!"

In an article on the great San Francisco Exposition the *New York Tribune* pays this compliment to Canada and the Canadians,—Col. Hutchison and other civil servants,—who are running the Canadian exhibit at the great show:

"Some of the buildings are not finished yet. Some are done, you might say, some are overdone and some are underdone. The Canada Building was finished the day the Fair opened; every exhibit was in place. And judges of such matters agree that Canada has the best show here."

Mr. Horace Wyndham has published a book on his military experiences, in which he quotes the reply of an Egyptian clerk to a demand for 1,000 rations for a Middlesex regiment:

"Honoured Sir,—Estimate telegram to hand, but not understood. Male sex I know well; ditto female sex. Middlesex, however, not familiar. Please send specimen."



## HONOUR THE SOLDIER, SHUN THE SHIRKER.

J. A. Nicholson, of Westmount, writes a splendid letter to the *Montreal Star* on the attitude of the public towards the soldiers and the "shirkers," "slackers," or whatever name is most descriptive of a certain class of young men of Canada to-day. His letter is worthy of reproduction in every loyal publication in Canada. It is, in part, as follows:

"There are, sad to say, thousands of men, physically fit, and comparatively free, throughout this Dominion to whom the cry:

"Shall Justice, Truth and Freedom turn the poised and trembling scale,  
Or shall the Evil triumph and robber Wrong prevail?"

Makes no appeal at all, but for whom:

"It is hockey still and the picture show,  
The bar and the betting odds,  
While their brothers stand to the foeman's blow  
And England's cause is God's."

"God help the nation that has to depend on such as these. Personally, I have the highest respect for the man who goes to the front, the private most of all. I care not what motives have impelled him to this course. He is going. That's enough for me; and I only wish that custom did not keep me from taking off my hat to him in acknowledgment of the nobility that must be there, and in token of my gratitude for his unselfish act. He is my guardian, and will help to save our common country. Why shouldn't I honor him, and more, why shouldn't I let him know that I do? He may rest satisfied, however, that although the thousands he meets show no sign to this effect, he has a warm place in every heart. On the other hand, I would like to be able to demonstrate

in some way or other my equally strong contempt for the man who refuses to do his plain and pressing duty in this regard.

"The call 'To Arms' is showing what manner of men we are. This is a sifting time for fathers and mothers, and above all for the boys. Miss Oliphant has well expressed the result. In the one case:

"The coward mother hides her head  
And sobs 'they must not go.'  
While the coward sons they slink away  
With the women and children at home to stay  
And a freedom enjoy for which they pay  
Who answer the call 'To arms.'

"And the other:

"The mother of men holds high her head  
As her sons go marching by  
Though her lips are dumb with anguish sore,  
Her heart gives thanks that the sons she bore  
Do not shrink in fear from the cannon's roar  
When honor calls 'To arms.'

"These ideas pressed home could not fail to create a public sentiment which would almost compel men to join the ranks, and the greatest part of this compelling force would be open and unmistakable evidence of the high regard in which every fighting man is rightly held in these bitter days of storm and stress."

Don't lend your *Civilian*. Let the other fellow stop sponging and buy one for himself.

If civil service reform is to come, public opinion will have to make itself felt.



**DR. SHORTT REPLIES TO CRITIC**

The Editors have received the following letter from Dr. Shortt in reply to "A Protest" published on page 719 of the last number of *The Civilian*:

April 10th, 1915.

Dear Sirs,—

My attention has been drawn to a communication in the last issue of *The Civilian*, criticizing a statement in the published report of my address of some weeks ago, with reference to conditions of entrance to the Outside Service. The report is, of course, a condensed one, necessarily omitting some of the qualifying features. However, as regards the chief points at issue, the report is sufficiently accurate.

The writer repudiates with considerable vehemence the possibility of obtaining appointments in the Outside Service leading to a salary of \$1,000 without a necessary knowledge of multiplication and division.

What then are the facts? In the first place, leaving out of account the higher positions in the Outside Service, a great many appointments of both a temporary and permanent nature, some of them rising to salaries much above \$1,000, are filled in the Outside Service without the necessary requirement of any educational standard. In the second place, under the Civil Service Amendment Act of 1912, Chap. 14, the standard for the great body of the Third Division clerks in the Outside Division of the Post Office Department was lowered from the Qualifying to the Preliminary grade. Moreover, a large number of clerks then in the Service in a temporary capacity were made eligible for permanent appointment without even this lowered qualification.

The Preliminary Examination now accepted for clerical work requires merely the elementary knowledge of writing, spelling and the first four rules of arithmetic. The percentage

required is only forty in each subject and fifty on the whole examination. It is easy enough, therefore, for candidates who can do addition and subtraction to qualify without a knowledge of multiplication and division. As the published statistics of our examinations will show, there are many candidates who fail even on this elementary test. That a number of these are already in the Outside Service is indicated by the letters received from some of them, requesting a reconsideration of their marks, with a view to their securing permanent employment, temporary employment in the regular Outside Service of the Post Office Department being now limited to one year. There is no such time limit for temporary employment in the other sections of the Outside Service.

As regards salaries, the Third Class clerks in the Outside Service who qualify by taking the Preliminary Examination are eligible for a salary up to \$1,000 without any further examination. It is obvious, therefore, that even among those who take the prescribed examinations, clerks in the Outside Service can attain to a salary of \$1,000 without any necessary knowledge of multiplication and division.

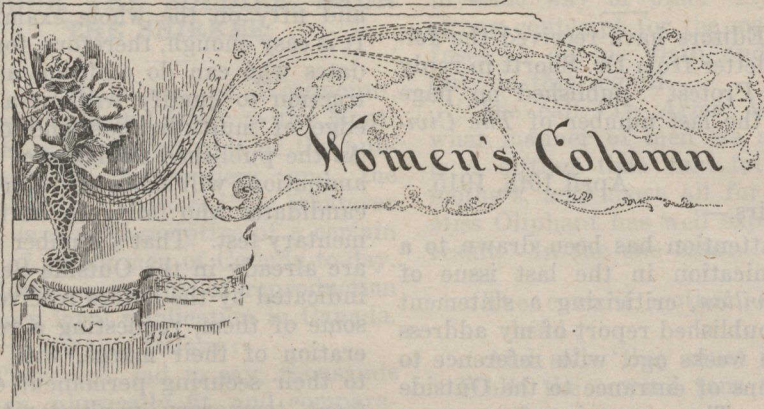
Full particulars as to the nature of the various examinations for the Inside and Outside Service, the number taking them, the successful candidates, etc., will be found in the annual reports of the Civil Service Commission.

Yours truly,  
ADAM SHORTT,  
*Commissioner.*

The Editors,  
*The Civilian,*  
Ottawa, Ont.

Organization is the natural lubricant of the business machine; too much and you clog it; too little and you have a hot box most of the time.





The regular monthly meeting of the Women's Branch C. S. Association is to be held on Saturday, the 17th inst., in St. John's Hall, corner of Elgin and Somerset streets, at 8 p.m. This should be a particularly interesting meeting as the association will present two playlets, *i.e.*, "Mere Man," and Bernard Shaw's "How He Lied to Her Husband." The tickets are only 25 cents, and may be purchased by women outside the Civil Service as well. The tickets, however, will only be sold to women as no men will be admitted to the audience. Tickets may be secured by application to either Miss St. Jaynes, Mines Dept., McLeod street, or to Miss Milly La Fleur, Dept. of Marine, Rea's Building. A large attendance of women is expected.

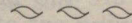
\* \* \*

As all the returns are not yet in from the Emergency Boxes, it is not possible to give a final statement to the readers of *The Civilian*. It is hoped, however, that the next issue will contain a full account both of the collections and the work which has been accomplished by the committees, all of whom deserve great credit for their untiring efforts during the past winter.

\* \* \*

A letter has been received from the Central Red Cross Committee asking Civil Servants to assist in the equip-

ment and maintenance of one or more beds in the Cliveden Hospital (formerly the Astor House) which is being enlarged to accommodate 1,000 patients. The cost of one bed is \$50.00. The result is being referred to the General Executive, as it is felt that the Service would wish to have a share in this noble work. Any bed or beds so equipped would be named by the donors.



### EVERYBODY VOTES BUT MOTHER.

*J. W. Bengough.*

Everybody votes but mother,  
 She used to vote once, too,  
 But when she got married to father  
 The law said it wouldn't do.  
 When mother was just a spinster,  
 Like my spectacled sister Ann,  
 She had a right to the ballot,  
 But alas! she married a man!  
 So everybody votes but mother:  
 Father, Sister Ann, and I,  
 My widowed aunt and my brother,  
 And mother wants to know why!

Everybody votes but mother,  
 'Cause mother she changed her  
 name;  
 'Looks as though, somehow or other,  
 Getting married must be a shame;  
 They take away votes from fellows



Who have been convicted in court,  
 And it seems that women who marry  
 Are bracketed with that sort,  
 So that's where they rank poor  
 mother;  
 They've struck her name from the  
 roll,  
 While sister and aunt and father  
 And I all go to the poll.

Everybody votes but mother,  
 Through our stupid and senseless  
 law,  
 And there's not on the list another,  
 Who needs the vote more than  
 maw;  
 She cares for the home and the  
 children  
 And she has a good right to a say  
 On the laws that affect the house-  
 hold  
 In any possible way.  
 So we must have a vote for mother,  
 Without waiting for dad to die;  
 For the wife, as well as the widow  
 And spinster, or we'll know why.

\* \* \*

*Note.*—Conveners of Committees and others who have communications for the Women's Column are requested by its Editor to send all their contributions, notices, statements, etc., addressed to Mrs. Macarow, R.M.D. Branch, P. O. Dept. (for Dorothy Day). If this rule is adhered to it will prevent much confusion in the preparation of copy for this column. Such matter should be in by the Saturday previous to the publication of *The Civilian*. Personal contributions to this column will be gladly received.

DOROTHY DAY.

The business world of today demands speed, not haste; loyalty, not sycophancy; service, not time serving; knowledge, not pedantry; the nerve to take a fighting chance, and the courage to acknowledge mistakes.

**IT'S A LONG WAY, Etc.**

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### A HOUSING SCHEME.

Ten thousand homes for working people are to be built in Buenos Aires within the next five years. These houses are to be erected by the Government and sold to its employees.

In view of the increasing seriousness of the housing problem in Ottawa and the study given to it by committees of the Civil Service organizations, details of the plan to be followed in the South American republic which resembles and rivals Canada in so many ways are of no small interest:

"The Argentine government has evolved a scheme for the betterment of the living conditions of the laboring classes in the larger cities of the country by placing the possibility of owning their homes within their reach. To accomplish this the government has entered into a contract with a large New York company for the erection of 10,000 two-storey houses in an outlying district of the Argentine capital. Each house is to have not less than five rooms, a kitchen, a bath room, sewer connections, etc., must front on a street or public passage, and must be within four squares of a street car line or a railway station.

"These houses are to be sold, preferably to Argentine citizens in the employ of the government, on an installment plan whereby the purchaser obligates himself to pay \$23.65 per month until the mortgage loan of \$2,580 has been repaid with interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum. Houses not taken up by employees of the government are to be sold to other applicants. Similar projects are under way in Santa Fe and other provinces of Argentina, the houses in most cases being smaller and less expensive, thus reducing the amount of the installments and enabling workmen with incomes of less than \$100 per month to become purchasers.

"The feature which makes the plan feasible is the fact that the government is to issue a series of what are known as "internal" bonds, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent., which it lends to the construction companies, thereby enabling them to finance these large projects. Much of the imported building material is also to be admitted free of duty.

"While the Buenos Aires project is perhaps the largest launched so far, the idea of governmental aid in the building of homes for working men is not so very new in Latin-American countries. In 1910 the Cuban congress passed a law authorizing the executive department to construct 2,000 small cottages, each to be assigned by lot to native-born or naturalized Cuban heads of families, of good conduct, having no personal resources other than the results of their labors, and whose names are properly registered. The houses were to be built of brick and tile, at least 13 feet high, and to contain a living room, dining room, two bedrooms, kitchen, bath and toilet, the lots to be at least 19½ by 65 feet. Workmen placed in possession of these houses pay \$2.65 within the first ten days of each month, which amount is applied to the interest and amortization, payment of water service and expenses of administration. When the possessor has repaid the amount of the actual cost of construction and the other obligations the state gives him a deed to the property. The houses are exempt from the payment of building fees, official charges, and of all taxes during the ten years in which the purchaser agrees to pay for the property. Under the provisions of this law, up to January 1, 1914, 950 houses had been constructed in Havana, 45 in Pinar del Rio, and 58 in various places in the province of Santa Clara.

"Plans similar to these have been in operation for some years in Chile, Brazil and Colombia, and are being



projected in Salvador, the Dominion Republic, Peru and other Latin-American countries."

### Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed under this heading.

#### Glebe Curling Club.

To the Editors of *The Civilian*:

Dear Sirs,—You had something to say in your columns not long ago about the "socceritis" disease in England, and took pains to point out that the phenomenon had affected recruiting from the spectator class, but that the player class had sent a great many men to the front. Now what do you think of the Glebe Curling Club,—an organization having a large percentage of Civil Servants in its membership,—which actually places obstacles in the way of the troops training for overseas service? This Glebe club influenced the city council to put up an exhibition building which could be used as a curling rink. They pay a rent for its use, but that rent pays the city a very small percentage on the additional investment over the amount which the building as originally contemplated would have cost. This private concern, getting a "good thing" from the city (which means from the taxpayers—Canadian people who are sending an army to Europe to fight for the preservation of the Empire) shows its gratitude by interfering with the training of the men who are going to the front. What a spectacle! And some of these "sports" are Civil Servants! What a counter-balance to your "Roll of Honour"!

ASHAMED.

Ottawa, April 5, 1915.

[*The Civilian* must decline to discuss the Glebe Curling Club and its action in regard to the use of the exhibition building. Public opinion

will deal with the club as an organization and the individual members must be left to the judgment of their own consciences.—EDS.] . . . . .

\* \* \*

#### First Aid for the Lower Grades.

To the Editors of *The Civilian*:

Would you kindly insert the following extract from Hansard of April 3rd. Surely the members of the government will in justice and fairness do something for the messengers after such an appeal of Mr. Proulx:

Mr. PROULX: Did the Civil Service Commission advertise for a chief architect?

Mr. ROGERS: No.

Mr. PROULX: Why was not the appointment made through the Civil Service Commission? I understand that all the appointments in the different departments are filled through the Civil Service Commission; that is, a department asks the Civil Service Commission to recommend a man, and the commission advertises in the Canada Gazette and posts up advertisements in the different post offices throughout the country. The minister does not know whether or not he could have got a man for less than \$7,000. If Mr. Ewart's salary was \$4,000, there is an increase of \$3,000, although the cost of living has not increased in that proportion. I find fault that in the different departments the ministers are too prone to pay very large salaries to the chief officials and to let the poor messengers starve on \$500 a year. A messenger came to me the other day and said that he had been in the hospital. He had to go into the public ward; and when the bill was sent to the city, the city would not pay it, the city treasurer claiming that the Government should pay their men sufficient salaries to enable them to pay their hospital bills. This man said that his wife had been sick, and



that he could not afford to call in a doctor. Rents are very high and the cost of living has increased. The minister goes on increasing the salaries of the higher officials from \$5,000 to \$6,000 or \$7,000; in fact, the salary of the Deputy Minister of Justice was increased to \$10,000; yet poor messengers who have families to support receive only \$500 per year.

Mr. ROGERS: It is one of the weaknesses of the Civil Service Act that the minimum salary to start with is \$500 a year. We cannot pay more.

Mr. PROULX: The minister should be solicitous for those poor people, and not too solicitous for those who have high salaries.

Mr. ROGERS: I quite agree with my hon. friend.

CIVIL SERVANT.

Ottawa, April 10, 1915.

\* \* \*

### Overmanning.

To the Editors of *The Civilian*:

I learn, with no small surprise, that exception is taken in some quarters to the recent intimation of *The Civilian* that the Civil Service is overmanned. This is a fact so evident to all who are acquainted with the Service that I did not suppose anyone would deny it. Such denials are absurd.

Everyone knows that the Service is overmanned. This condition is not the fault of the men in the Service, but of the ridiculous system—or lack of system—under which the Service is operated. There are too many men but there is not enough working efficiency. This must continue to be the case until a better system of recruiting new men and of assigning men to the duties for which they are best fitted is inaugurated. Also, there must be a proper means of cutting out “dead wood” and of making promotions on merit, irrespective of seniority, before conditions in regard to this overmanning will improve. All

this, of course, is covered by the scheme of appointment and promotion for merit only, and for a proper superannuation system, to which I have understood, the Civil Service organizations were pledged. Until such a plan is carried into effect we will continue to have our departmental staffs made up on a (possible) basis of ten men drawing pay and eight doing the work. When we get rid of the two “dead ones” and gain, in their stead, one “live one,” we will have a smaller personnel, smaller payroll and more work done.

Of course, all such changes must come from the Government, but the demand of the Service for a merit system will do more to improve its standing in the public estimation and bring more indirect pressure to bear upon the Government than any amount of wire-pulling or lobbying. A spirit of improvement, within the Service itself, is the source of our greatest hope, but before we can commence to improve we must admit imperfections,—and one of the worst imperfections is overmanning.

Let us freely admit it.

HONESTY.

Ottawa, April 7, 1915.

\* \* \*

### War Conditions.

To the Editors of *The Civilian*:

While I do not wish to precipitate any debate with your correspondent, “Common Sense,” whose communication, published in your last issue, was characterized by a goodly spice of the admirable quality with which he identified himself, I would, nevertheless, like to quote, in answer to his argument re cheaper living, the “index number” of the Department of Labour on wholesale prices in Canada. The latest published figures give this comparison:—

February, 1914	.....	136.1
January, 1915	.....	138.6
February, 1915	.....	143.8



## OUR MEN'S TAILORING SECTION.

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Man's Lunch,  
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6-2-0-1.

# THE NEW DRESSES

There is a certain quaintly elusive air of dignity about the new dresses. Indeed there is nothing strange about this since they are derived from the Victorian period when everybody and everything was dignified, but by no means dull. Some people have a mistaken way of associating dullness with dignity. This was before the advent of ragtime and the Tango, joy riding, and other features of every day living identical with modern times. In the days when the prototypes of these dresses were in vogue the Blue Danube was as popular as Tipperary is now, but if your waltz partner, through awkwardness, were to subject you to any of the motions that characterize the romping, knock-knee gyrations of the present day, your thoughts would not be printable, and everything would be taken on your programme when he next came around. How far away in retrospect seem those peaceful days of Victoria, the waltz, bouffant skirts and whispering silks, for Taffeta, too, has come back! Here are dresses that are all shirrs and gathers, pleats and ruffles, and as full and drapey as a nun's. They are not, however, as soft, silent and non-assertive as the example for the cloister. There is a certain frou-frou, a sibilant swish, a whispering, irrepressible murmur that is inseparable from Taffeta to these new frocks. And there are other textiles that have the shimmer of Taffeta, but none of its rustle and self-assertiveness—Crepe de Chine and Eoliennes—but they are all developed in the buoyant, full, even voluminous modes.

**Prices Range from \$19.50 up to \$35.00**

and are remarkably reasonable, considering the consumption of material and the methods of fashioning and trimming. It takes artistic fingers to produce dresses such as these, and you'll pronounce them artistic when you see them. Inspection cordially invited.

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Spring  
Water  
used in  
Tea Room  
Kitchen

## Murphy-Gamble Limited

Pure  
Spring  
Water  
supplied on  
Tea Room  
Tables

Please Patronise Our Advertisers.



Wholesale price increases are, of course, promptly reflected, and often proportionately aggravated in retail prices.

As to rents in Ottawa, they may have come down in many cases, but I know of more cases of increases than of decreases.

Yours,  
"DOLLARS AND CENTS."

### THE CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF OTTAWA.

The regular meeting of the Executive was held on Tuesday, April 6th, with a small attendance of members. The work of the Executive is being delayed by the absence of so many members from meeting to meeting. Some of the members are unable to attend through official and military duties. There is a real danger, however, that a splendid opportunity to discuss Civil Service affairs at leisure will pass away and that when the Bills are eventually brought down the course of action will not be decided.

In acknowledgment from the Premier to the letter from the secretary in which the relative positions of *The Civilian* and the association were defined, was placed before the meeting.

It was decided to cancel the general meetings for May, September and November, unless a request was made for their continuance.

The principal matter before the meeting was the proposal of the Women's Branch that a canvass be made of the Service in aid of the Duchess of Connaught Hospital at Cliveden. The idea was heartily endorsed by the Executive, and a sub-committee was appointed to issue a bulletin requesting the Service to co-operate with the Women's Branch in this worthy project.

### THE LATE PAUL WIALLARD.

Paul Wiallard, chief of the Canadian Emigration Bureau, in Paris, died on March 28th. Mr. Wiallard was a native of France, and in his sixty-second year. He came to Canada in 1871, and resided for many years in Montreal. He returned to France in 1908, when he was appointed chief of the Canadian Immigration Bureau in Paris.

He married Miss Gosselin, of Quebec, and is survived by Mrs. Wiallard and three children. Mr. Rene A. Wiallard, the only son, is agent of the Marine and Fisheries Department in Montreal, but is now fighting in France. The wife of Dr. Bosquet, Montreal, is a daughter, while another daughter, unmarried, was with the family in Paris when Mr. Wiallard died.

Don't "crawl in your shell" if you feel grouchy; get out in the sunshine.

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has something to offer you. To find out what it is, write  
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## WITH THE SECOND CONTIN- GENT.

(By a Civil Servant.)

At last there are signs of a departure before we all are grey-headed with the monotonous round of Kingstonian military life! Our transport with the horses and waggons of the Battalion left not so very long ago for England, and we think, allowing for all the eventualities that may arise, that we will be on our way across the water by the end of the month. "That will be glory", as the poet has aptly put it, for we are about fed up, in addition to being far from home!

The Sergeants of the Battalion had a most successful and enjoyable banquet at the British American Hotel a while ago. As guests they had the senior officers of the Battalion, and the evening will not be forgotten for a long time. The *piece de resistance*, as far as the musical programme was concerned was the combined choir of the Officers, who rendered with pathos and emotion that splendid cantata entitled "Tell me the old, old Story — We're going away next week". This I am told brought down the house. After the evening was far spent, there was a triumphal gathering outside the hotel, where "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem were sung as a finale to the festive occasion, and then, escorted by the Pipers, who had given a flavour of Auld Reekie to the proceedings, and by the Battalion Brass Band, everyone sought his virtuous bunk. The band was the great surprise of the evening, as it discoursed music during dinner, and this reflects great credit on the Sergeant Drummer, W. T. Frazer of Ottawa, formerly of the Grenadier Guards Band.

We will probably get our Web equipment on arrival in the Old Country, also new clothing, as our present is rather more suited to rough work than to captivate the lassies of

Shorncliffe. The officers have obtained their Web belts, and they look very well, and everything seems so well designed for portability and comfort.

Another non-commissioned officer has left us to take a commission elsewhere,—Lce. Cpl. A. S. Bleakney, of the Signalling section, who has been made Signalling Officer of the 39th Battalion, C.E.F., at Belleville. He is an Ottawa boy, and is wished all possible success in his new rank.

I am given to understand that there is being a generous response made by the private citizens of Ottawa to the appeal for contributions to the Field Equipment Fund of the Battalion, and we hope to have every cent of the \$10,000 required by the time that we leave here. As I think I said, this money is for the purchase of travelling or field kitchens for the men when on the line of march, making it possible to have a hot meal ready for them at a moment's notice. It is asserted that the efficiency of troops can be increased some 25 per cent by feeding them from these kitchens, and we hope to be helped to attain to the highest pinnacle of efficiency.

The weather is now ideal, and were we only somewhere else it would be appreciated to the fullest. Summer routine, with reveille at 5.30 a.m. is now in vogue, and the advantages of the ranges at Barriefield are being utilized to the fullest extent. Gallery practice is also being had in the Armouries, and the men are getting expert in their shooting, as occasional competitions show. The daily marches are also making the men fit as fiddles and hard as nails, and if we ever reach the firing line we shall give a good account of ourselves.

Great was the delight taken in the victory of Willard over Johnston at Havana; the results of the fight were wired in as it progressed, and were thrown on the screen in the Recreation Room for the edification of the men of the Battalion. To create a



little flutter, a sweepstake of some \$45 was arranged and everybody was anxious for the fight to cease at the round that they had drawn. Mr. Sharp and Mr. Stewart were two of the prime movers in the sweep, but neither of them won anything, sad to relate.

We have the outfits for several games with us; we play baseball games between companies on half-holidays, we have several footballs, and I hear that we are going to take a lacrosse outfit over seas with us. There are also enough Englishmen in the Battalion to give anybody who will take us up a good game of cricket. So that, when we have time to ourselves, we will be able to spend it to advantage, since "all work and no play," etc.

We are all looking forward to the ocean voyage; all of us expect to feed the fishes, but it is well worth a little inconvenience to get nearer to France. So far as I can make out, the whole brigade will be going as a unit, and we are to have a passenger boat, not a transport. When travelling like this, I am told that officers and warrant officers travel first class, non-commissioned officers of the rank of sergeant, second, and the rank and file third. What a shipload we will be! There is quite an elaborate daily routine laid down for use on board transports in K. R. & O. Many, I fancy, will be the ways of "lashing-up and stowing" hammocks, not at all in accordance with the regulation seven turns, and also the ways of slinging hammocks, at variance with the "swab" hitch and easy to slip. If the great god Mars will condescend to smile upon us, the most humble and ardent of his votaries, we may soon be on our way rejoicing; until we do that, I fear that my news will not be very interesting.

The fellow who looks for an easy job is always complaining of hard luck.

## CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

No act Parliament can pass is more needed than one honestly and thoroughly reforming the Civil Service, by removing it entirely and absolutely from political influence. And yet that great measure of remedial legislation would be dearly bought if the price that had to be paid was the surrender of citizenship by all those who accept service under the Crown. Why should a Government employee be deprived of a vote? The fault is not his that conditions have made the Civil Service a political institution. On the politician rests all or nearly all the blame for the evils that are everywhere complained of in connection with Civil Service life. Parliament has but to enact a system of appointment and promotion by merit, and the problem will be solved if the politicians will then keep their places and allow the Act to work as designed. No Liberal, no Conservative, can claim any credit for his party in dealing with this problem. In opposition, each boasted of what would be done. In power, neither ever did anything, and it may be doubted if either is yet ready to do anything. The Civil Service is so much patronage, and the politicians and statesmen of Canada all want to use it, and do not want to be precluded from doing so by hard and fast laws. Under the system as it exists to-day, and as it existed under the old Government, there is an age limit for entrance to the service, but the man with sufficient "pull" gets in just the same. It is also necessary to pass an examination, but provisional appointments are made regardless of that examination, and ways and means are found to keep the unsuccessful one on the payroll. There are regulations about statutory increases and promotions, but "pull" gets increases more rapidly than the statutory provisions for some, while those without influence wait sometimes for years



for that which the country fairly and honestly owes them. Some never get their just deserts; others get along far faster than they would on any recognized merit system. Under Liberal rule, the bulk of those who benefit in this way are Liberals. Under Conservative rule, the Conservatives are the ones who reap the greater benefit. Even superannuation is a matter of influence. The one who has friends gets time added to his service, or gets leave of absence for six months or a year on full pay before entering on the enjoyment of his reward, while the less fortunate one may in the middle of a month and after a lifetime of service be told his employment ended days before. Under Liberal rule, there were happenings of this kind. They are not unknown now that the other party is in control. They prove, not that the civil servant should be disfranchised, but that the politician should be curbed. Political leaders and back bench members alike are responsible for the prevailing conditions. Men who would scorn to do, or be party to a mean or unfair transaction in the ordinary affairs of life, lend their support and their influence, and even demand as a political necessity, these violations of the Civil Service Act, although each and every case means taking an unfair, a mean advantage of some fellowman who in the service he is rendering the country has earned the right to expect fair and honorable treatment. Rotten as the conditions are, they are no more rotten to-day than yesterday or the day before. They are the product of the political system, and for that the Civil Servant should not be punished or penalized. Depriving Civil Servants of their vote is not, and should not be, any part of the remedy. Citizenship is a right, and the man who would barter it for the best office the country could give him, and for service under the most ideal conditions, would be an unworthy citizen.—*St. John Globe.*

## THE CALL.

*By a Canadian Soldier.*

These swinging little verses were written by a member of the Canadian contingent, now completing training in England:—

I hear the clear note of the bugle,  
And the roar of the calling drum,  
And I feel the swing of the marching men,  
And a deep, deep voice says: Come.

For the hand of duty points forward,  
Though the heartstrings quiver and  
break,  
And the voice of my calling country  
Is one I may not forsake.

For my manhood heeds and listens  
And bends an attentive ear  
And though war's alarm may bring me  
harm  
My road lies plain and clear.

It stretches wide from my own fireside,  
At the far end stands the foe;  
And though grim death meets my eager  
breath  
I am ready and glad to go.

For Britain asks for the sons she lent  
To the East, West, South and North,  
And who stands by when a mother's cry  
Is bidding her sons "Stand forth?"

The shades of the past stand clear at last,  
For the flag by land and sea;  
What was duty for Wellington, Nelson and  
Moore  
Is doubly duty for me.

For they handed down the hard-won crown  
That is made for the victor's brow.  
And the glory of deeds afloat and ashore  
Is one to remember now.

Then God send Britain the strong right  
arm  
To prosper well in the fight,  
And show that the sea-girt island  
Is backed by an Empire's might.

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the best in its history. Why not take advantage of the dull times and prepare for the wave of prosperity that is bound to sweep over this great Canada of ours when the war is over ?

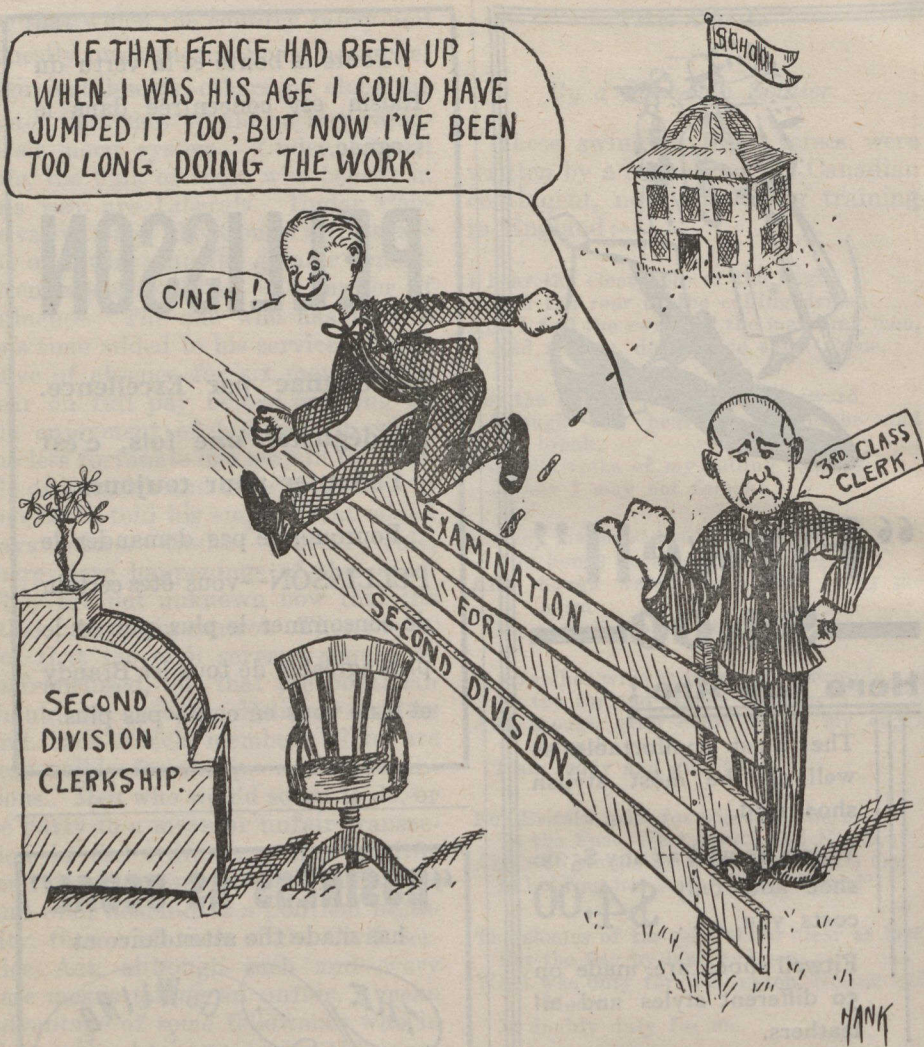
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W. E. GOWLING, *President.*

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### OTTAWA P. O. DEPT. HOCKEY CLUB.

A musicale and dance will be held under the auspices of the Post Office Department Hockey Club in St. Patrick's Hall, Laurier avenue, April 19th, at 8.30 p.m.

The musical programme will consist of selections by departmental talent followed by danieng. Tippins' orchestra in attendance.

The club wishes to make the occasion an opportunity to get acquaint-

ed with its friend supporters and rivals, and therefore solicits a large and representative attendance of *Civilian* readers.

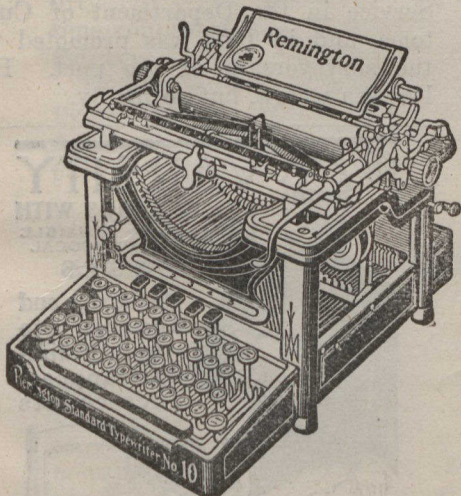
The theorist usually suffers the handicap of being obliged to work under a man who has to dig up a pay roll once every week or so.

Some men pay themselves the beautiful compliment of thinking that the organization was not born until they came to it, and will die with them.



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### Personals.

R. S. Raby, of the Department of Railways and Canals, who has been seriously ill in Montreal, has recovered and returned to Ottawa. Mr. Raby is a lieutenant of the Army Service Corps, and had mobilized for overseas service, but his illness made it impossible for him to go to the front for some time.

The marriage of Adeline Huntley Merrill to Harvey W. Messinger was celebrated on April 1st. Mr. Messinger is on the Railway Commission staff.

A. W. Campbell, Deputy Minister of Railways and Canals, has returned from Florida.

Elsie Hawthorne, only daughter of the late William Himsforth, I.S.O., Deputy Minister of Inland Revenue, was married on April 7th to Edmund De Gaspé Power, son of the late Augustus Power, K.C., I.S.O.

It is reported in letters received at Toronto from members of 48th Highlanders at the front in France that Lieut. Alex. Sinclair, of Toronto G. P. O. staff, has had his legs scalded. Lieut. Sinclair will be remembered as the well-known and able oarsman and rugbyist with the Argonauts, whose friends regret his mishap and hope to hear of his quick recovery.

### OBITUARY.

George Duncan, ticket agent of the Canadian Pacific in Ottawa, dropped dead in the office of F. C. Blair, of the Immigration Branch on April 6. He was fifty-four years of age, and is survived by his widow and three sons. The sons are Allan of the Customs Department, Gordon of Militia and Defence, and Stuart, recently returned from survey work near Hudson Bay.

James E. Parnell, chief Dominion fruit inspector in the West, died in St. Catharines on April 5th after a lengthy illness.

The sympathy of the Civil Service goes out to George W. Yates, private secretary to the Minister of Railways and Canals, and to Randolph W. Yates of the Railway Mail Service, London, in the loss of both their parents during the month of March. The father, Henry Yates, passed away on March 7th, aged sixty-seven years, followed by the grief-stricken mother, Mrs. Margaret Yates, on March 28th. Mrs. Yates, who was a native of Scotland, was seventy years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Yates had lived in London for forty-five years.

Hannah Burns, relict of the late John D. Clendinnen, M.D., and mother of C. A. E. Clendinnen of the Dominion Observatory, passed away on March 29th, aged eighty years. She was a native of old Bytown and had lived in the Ottawa valley all her life.

Robert A. Clarke, surveyor of customs for the port of Ottawa, died on April 1st after only five days' illness. Mr. Clarke was born in Ottawa during the first year of Confederation, being a son of the late James Clark, an official of the By estate. Twenty-eight years ago he entered the Civil Service in the Department of Customs, and in 1903 was promoted to the surveyorship of the port. He leaves a widow, but no family.



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The death occurred at Fort Erie on March 21st of Robert Willson, father of W. F. Wilson, of the Customs service. Deceased was of an old pioneer United Empire Loyalist family and had attained the age of eighty-six years.

*The Civilian* tenders its sympathy to the Right Hon. the Premier and to J. W. Borden, of the Department of Militia and Defence, in the loss they sustained in the death, at Grand Pre, N.S., of their mother, Mrs. Eunice Borden.

Ada, daughter of R. P. Taylor, of the Money Order Branch, Post Office Department, died at her parents' home in New Edinburgh on April 1st, aged only twenty years.

Julie Ann Cody, wife of Duncan W. Johnson, accountant of the Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, died at the family home at Westboro on Easter Sunday morning, leaving besides her husband three little daughters. The funeral took place at Glencoe, Ont., on April 6th.

Samuel James Allen, of the *Herald*, Carleton Place, and father of Bert Allen, of the Department of Inland Revenue, died on April 3rd, aged fifty-four years. Deceased was at one time connected with the Government Printing Bureau, Ottawa.

Thomas Mooney, of King's County, Prince Edward Island, father of A. A. Mooney, of the Post Office Department, died on April 8th.

### A CIVIL SERVANT COMMISSIONER.

Action was taken at a meeting of the Chicago Civil Service League early in February at the Masonic Temple, Chicago, looking toward the appointment of a representative of the municipal employees of Chicago as member of the city civil service commission, and much favorable comment was evoked by the proposition.

"The time has come," said one of

the members, speaking from the floor, "where it becomes the duty of the Chicago Civil Service League to make a request—and in no uncertain terms—that the employees themselves shall have a man to represent them on the Commission—a man who would know and meet the different problems which are continually coming up, and who could treat the conditions arising before the Commission from the employee's standpoint."—*C. S. News, Chicago.*

### "OWED."

Lines suggested by the Poet "Low-Rate" on hearing of the man who received *The Civilian* for years and refused to pay:—

For four long years it came to him

As each two weeks sped by,

And his excuse for these arrears

Brings teardrops to my eye.

"Three years ago, to cancel it

I told a man," says he,

He was a messenger, at that,

With no authority!

A man who is as small as that

Is hardly fit to thrive;

This world would be a better place

If he were not alive.

I'd raze him from this honor roll,

His heart it ossifies;

My personal impression is,

This so-called MAN—he LIES.

### STICK.

Wellington had wonderful persistency of purpose, and Wellington won. Grant was a determined, bull-dog fighter, and his soldiers used to say of him that you might as well try to snub the sun.

Persistency is a jewel in the crown of success.

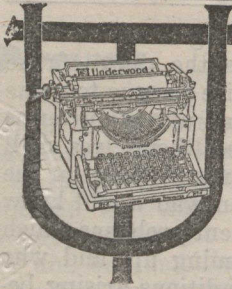
The beginning and the end of all enterprise depend on your power to stick.

When you feel like quitting, just think of men who are compelled to face real trouble. You are not having half the trouble Wellington had when he won.

Everyone that wins, sticks. Everyone that fails to stick, fails to win.

The point is, stick.





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